United Nations A/C.2/65/L.42

General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
11 November 2010

Original: English

Sixty-fifth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 20
Sustainable development

Yemen:* draft resolution

International Year for Sustainable Energy for All

The General Assembly,

Reiterating the principles of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development[1] and of Agenda 21[2] and recalling the recommendations and conclusions contained in the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation")[3] concerning energy for sustainable development,

Recalling its resolution 55/2 of 8 September 2000, by which it adopted the United Nations Millennium Declaration,

Recalling also the High-level Plenary Meeting of the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals and its outcome,[4]

Recalling further its resolutions 53/7 of 16 October 1998, 54/215 of 22 December 1999 and 55/205 of 20 December 2000, and recalling its resolutions 56/200 of 21 December 2001, 58/210 of 23 December 2003, 60/199 of 22 December 2005, 62/197 of 19 December 2007 and 64/206 of 21 December 2009 on the promotion of new and renewable sources of energy,

Concerned that over three billion people in developing countries rely on traditional biomass and coal for cooking and heating, that one and a half billion are

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[2] Ibid., resolution 1, annex II.

[3] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[4] See resolution 65/1.

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without electricity, and that even when those services are available, millions of poor people are unable to afford to pay for modern energy services,

Recognizing that access to modern affordable energy services in developing countries is paramount for the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and sustainable development, which would reduce poverty and improve the conditions and standard of living for the majority of the world's population,

Emphasizing the inextricable link between energy and sustainable development and the relevance of modern, cleaner and more efficient energy in the eradication of poverty,

Emphasizing also the importance of investing in access to cleaner energy technology options and a climate resilient future for all and the need to improve access to reliable, affordable, economically viable, socially acceptable and environmentally sound energy services and resources for sustainable development, and taking into consideration the diversity of situations, national policies and specific needs of developing countries,

Stressing that the wider use and exploration of available and additional, cleaner, new and renewable sources of energy require technology transfer and diffusion on a global scale, including through North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation,

Emphasizing the need to take further action to mobilize the provision of adequate financial resources, of sufficient quality and arriving in a timely manner, as well as the transfer of advanced technology to developing countries and countries with economies in transition for providing efficient and wider use of energy sources, in particular new and renewable sources of energy,

Reaffirming the importance of national policies and strategies to combine, as appropriate, the increased use of new and renewable energy sources and low carbon emission technologies, including cleaner fossil fuel technologies, and the sustainable use of traditional energy services, and enhancing national capacities to meet the growing energy demand, as appropriate, supported by international cooperation in this field and by the promotion of the development and dissemination of appropriate, affordable and sustainable energy technologies, as well as the transfer of such technologies on mutually agreed terms,

1. *Decides* to proclaim 2012 as the International Year for Sustainable Energy for All;

2. *Takes note* of the efforts of the United Nations system to work towards ensuring energy access for all and to protect the environment through cleaner technologies and newer energy sources;[5]

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with relevant agencies within the United Nations system, according to their mandates, to organize and coordinate activities to be undertaken during the Year, working closely with the United Nations system and other stakeholders worldwide;

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[5] See the report of the Secretary-General's Advisory Group on Energy and Climate Change, "Energy for a sustainable future", available at: www.un.org/millenniumgoals/pdf/AGECCsummaryreport%5B1%5D.pdf.

4. *Encourages* all Member States, the United Nations system and all other actors to take advantage of the Year to increase the awareness of the importance of addressing energy issues, including modern energy services for all, access to affordable energy, energy efficiency and the sustainability of energy sources and use, for the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, sustainable development and to promote action at the local, national, regional and international levels;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-seventh session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, taking into account, inter alia, the initiatives taken by Member States and international organizations to create an enabling environment at all levels for the promotion and use of new and renewable energy technologies, including measures to improve access to such technologies.